

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 077144
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /013 R

66011

DRAFTED BY EUR/NE:REWOODS

APPROVED BY EUR/NE:RLFUNSETH

-----127934 250700Z /23

R 242241Z MAR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 0545

UNCLAS STATE 077144

FOL RPT BRUSSELS 05790 SENT ACTION SECSTATE & SECDEF INFO BONN,
LUXEMBOURG, THE HAGUE, MOSCOW, USNATO, USNMR SHAPE & USCINCEUR
DTD 23 MAR 78

QUOTE: UNCLAS BRUSSELS 05790

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MNUC, NATO, BE, US

SUBJECT: BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES ERW IN
PARLIAMENT

1. FOREIGN MINISTER SIMONET ANSWERED QUESTIONS IN PARLIA-
MENT MARCH 22 ON THE ENHANCED RADIATION WEAPON (ERW).
HE MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS IN HIS PRESENTATION:

(A) THE QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT TO PRODUCE
THE ERW IS A MATTER SOLELY FOR THOSE GOVERNMENTS WHICH
HAVE THE TECHNOLOGICAL AND FINANCIAL MEANS TO DO SO.
THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, THUS, DOES NOT NEED TO CONSULT
ITS ALLIES ON THE DESIRABILITY OF PRODUCING STRATEGIC
OR TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

(B) THE DEPLOYMENT OF THE ERW TO THE EUROPEAN
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 077144

THEATRE OF OPERATIONS IS A MATTER FOR THE APPROVAL
OF THOSE COUNTRIES ON WHOSE TERRITORY THE WEAPON
MIGHT BE USED.

(C) THE U.S. HAS INFORMED US THAT IT WAS PREPARED
TO CONSIDER THE INTENTION TO DEPLOY THE ERW AS PART
OF A MORE GENERAL NEGOTIATION ON THE REDUCTION OF ARMS,

NOTABLY IN THE EUROPEAN THEATRE OF OPERATIONS.

(D) IT HAS NEVER BEEN THE INTENTION OF THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT FLATLY TO ENDORSE ("SOUSCRIRE SANS PLUS") A DECISION, CONCERNING WHICH IT WOULD HAVE BEEN CONSULTED, BEARING ON THE DEPLOYMENT OF THE ERW IN THE EUROPEAN THEATRE. "I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF SAYING SEVERAL TIMES IN THIS REGARD THAT THE MAIN OBJECTIVE MUST BE TO ACHIEVE A PROGRESSIVE AND BALANCED REDUCTION OF FORCES IN THE EUROPEAN THEATRE."

(E) IT IS IN THIS FRAMEWORK THAT THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT WILL REPLY TO THE BREZHNEV LETTER, WHICH ASKED THE BELGIAN AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS TO CONDEMN THE PRODUCTION AND DEPLOYMENT OF THE ERW. THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS DISARMAMENT A GLOBAL ISSUE, THE ACHIEVEMENT OF WHICH IS NOT SERVED BY AN ISOLATED DECISION TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO THE GENERAL CONTEXT OF THE PRESENT DISEQUILIBRIUM OF FORCES IN EUROPE. THE UNILATERAL RENUNCIATION BY ONE OF THE PARTIES IN THE DIALOGUE OF A POSSIBILITY FOR OBTAINING A SIGNIFICANT CONCESSION FROM THE OTHER WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE DESIRED RESULT.

(F) AT PRESENT, THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT DOES NOT BELIEVE IT USEFUL TO MAKE A DEFINITIVE STATEMENT ON THE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 077144

DEPLOYMENT OF THE ERW IN EUROPE, AND MORE PARTICULARLY ON THE TERRITORY OF THE FRG, WHICH IS DIRECTLY CONCERNED.

(G) THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT NEITHER CAN NOR DOES IT HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE ANY JUDGMENT ON THE EVENTS (I.E. ANTI-ERW DEMONSTRATIONS) IN THE NETHERLANDS TO WHICH SEVERAL DEPUTIES HAVE REFERRED.

2. SIMONET REFERRED TO THE ERW THROUGHOUT HIS PRESENTATION AS THE "NEUTRON BOMB." OLSEN
UNQUOTE VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPEECHES, ADVANCED WEAPONS, NUCLEAR WEAPONS DEPLOYMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE077144
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: REWOODS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780131-0972
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780326/aaaaavww.tel
Line Count: 105
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c2b7adbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3206640
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES ERW IN PARLIAMENT
TAGS: MNUC, BE, US, NATO, (SIMONET, HENRI)
To: STOCKHOLM
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c2b7adbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014